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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

16 JUNE 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Mokelumne Hill – Authorities Seize 3,000 Marijuana Plants, 58 Pounds of Pot Worth \$3.4 Million

(U) Calaveras County Sheriff's investigators seized nearly 3,000 growing marijuana plants and more than 58 pounds of processed marijuana with an estimated value of over \$3.4 million at four illegal outdoor and indoor cultivation sites last week. The marijuana seizures came after serving search warrants at the four Calaveras County properties in unrelated investigations, the Calaveras County Sheriff's Office announced in a news release yesterday.

SOURCE: 16 June 2021, The Modesto Bee

(U) Red Bluff - DHS Evaluates Wildfire Sensors with California Emergency Responders

(U) The US Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) announced it had successfully tested early wildfire detection technology prototypes this week in California. Conducted during a controlled burn, the prototype sensors were deployed at various distances from the ignition point and then were monitored to establish baselines for the generation of alerts. The demonstration further proved that sensor technologies can be valuable for both first responders and the public. SOURCE: 15 June 2021, Homeland Preparedness News

(U) Stockton – 'Booby Trap-Type' Explosives Found in Home During Eviction; Neighborhood Evacuated

(U) The San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office says deputies were serving a restraining order along with an eviction notice to Robert Bradford, 35, when several explosives were found along with various other weapons. The San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office reported Bradford knew authorities were on their way to serve him, and the pipe bomb-type devices were planted on purpose. An Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team had to be called to the scene. The neighborhood was evacuated for hours while bomb techs cleared the scene. Bradford was taken to a local hospital for evaluation but will be booked at the San Joaquin County Jail. Charges have not yet been determined.

SOURCE: 16 June 2021, <u>CBS 13</u>

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Connecticut – Russian National Convicted of Charges Relating to Kelihos Botnet

(U) Hartford – A federal jury in Connecticut convicted a Russian national on Tuesday for operating a "crypting" service used to conceal "Kelihos" malware from antivirus software, enabling hackers to systematically infect victim computers around the world with malicious software, including ransomware. According to court documents and evidence introduced at trial, Oleg Koshkin, 41, formerly of Estonia, operated the websites "Crypt4U.com," "fud.bz" and others. The websites promised to render malicious software fully undetectable by nearly every major provider of antivirus software. Koshkin and his coconspirators claimed that their services could be used for malware such as botnets, remote-access trojans, keyloggers, credential stealers and cryptocurrency miners.

SOURCE: 16 June 2021, US DOJ

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(U) Texas – Man Suspected in Shooting Police Officer Found Dead Inside Home

(U) Honey Grove – A man suspected of shooting a police officer in the leg in a small North Texas city appears to have fatally shot himself after a standoff with officers overnight. Police in Honey Grove said the officer responded to a home because of a possible domestic dispute. The officer then encountered a man who appeared to be armed with a rifle. Police said a constable arrived to assist, and authorities were fired upon. An officer was shot and pulled to safety amid gunfire by a constable. Police said the officer had been taken to a hospital and was in stable condition. Police said the standoff ended the next morning when authorities entered the home and found the man dead.

SOURCE: 16 June 2021, 5 NBC DFW

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Italy – IED Discovered, Destroyed in Front of Stadium Ahead of Soccer Match

(U) Rome – An improvised explosive device was found in a car outside of Stadio Olimpico in Rome on Wednesday prior to the 2020 European Championship soccer match between Italy and Switzerland. The homemade bomb was allegedly reported as a suspicious-looking package on a car in the Prati area. The bomb was a cylinder filled with gunpowder and electrical wire found on the bodywork of Italian municipal executive Marco Doria's parked car. According to local reports, it was fashioned to go off, but further details have not yet been released as to how it would have ignited. Italian police safely defused the bomb and are investigating the attempted bombing.

SOURCE: 16 June 2021, MSN

(U) Germany – Woman Convicted of Joining ISIS, Holding Yazidi Slaves

(U) Duesseldorf – A German-Algerian woman was convicted of membership to ISIS and of holding Yazidi women as slaves in Syria after she traveled there as a teenager. She was sentenced to 6 1/2 years in prison. The state court in Duesseldorf announced its verdict against the 23-year-old defendant, identified only as Sarah O. The court said she went to Syria in November 2013 and joined ISIS, and shortly afterward married a member of the group. It said she temporarily housed new members and tried to persuade others to come to Syria to join the group. Sarah O. was convicted under juvenile law of offenses including membership in a foreign terrorist organization, committing crimes against humanity and being an accessory to rape, and unlawful detention.

SOURCE: 16 June 2021, ABC News

(U) Mali – French Forces in Mali Arrest 'High-Ranking' ISIS Fighter

(U) Bamako – French forces in Mali have captured a man they describe as a "high-ranking fighter of the Islamic State in the Greater Sahara" (EIGS). Dadi Ould Chouaib, also known as Abou Dardar, was arrested on 11 June in the "tri-border" region between Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso, the site of frequent attacks by jihadist groups, the military said in a statement. Dardar was formerly a member of the al-Qa'ida-linked Movement for Oneness and Jihad in West Africa (MUJAO), many of whose fighters joined EIGS. SOURCE: 17 June 2021, France 24

(U) Ukraine - Authorities Arrest Ransomware Gang

(U) Kiev – Police in Ukraine reported they arrested members of a major ransomware gang. The arrests mark the first time a law enforcement agency has announced a mass arrest of a prolific hacker group that had extorted Americans by either encrypting an organization's files or threatening to leak them to the public. The gang, known as ClOp, has hacked a number of American targets, including the University of Miami, Stanford University, University of Maryland, and University of Colorado, demanding a payment to either keep their systems functional or to not publish material they were able to steal. SOURCE: 16 June 2021, NBC News

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